

4/12/77

MEMO re Policoff call and DeM, Epstein, Oltmans, Lane, et. al.

Jerry called me last night to chat. He had some interesting things to say, which I think I ought to record.

First, he had recently (the previous night?) done a radio show from NY with Lane & Oltmans on phone from Palm Beach and Jones for a little while from Texas. He said he really tore into Oltmans, who was arrogant as a real Nazi. Lane said he was shocked that Jerry did not trust Oltmans, who he defended. One thing Jerry said he got Oltmans to admit was that DeM had not told his concocted story in late Feb. until after Oltmans brought the Earl Golz story about the Hunt letter to DeM's attention.

Jerry said it seems pretty clear that DeM was down in the dumps, that Oltmans convinced him he could make big bucks by coming up with his plot story and flew him off to Holland to tape the interview. Probably while in Holland DeM realized the mess he'd gotten into, that he wasn't going to make a cent and that he might get sued. It was then that he spooked out and fled, although query where he got the money to return to U.S.--Jerry says ~~he~~ he was broke.

Also, Jerry has been working on a New Times piece re Epstein's upcoming book. He said he is now sure what Epstein will say because Jones Harris ran off at the mouth about it to Jerry. According to Jones the reconstruction (scenario?) involves Trafficante as working both sides, for CIA and for Castro or, indirectly, KGB, and that Castro used him and mob ties to get JFK, they in turn using the anti-Castro's to pull off the job. Thus, a foreign plot. But he also has a domestic cover-up, done because of fear of exposing fact (a la Angleton) that US intelligence was thoroughly infiltrated by KGB (enter NOsenko). Possibly will have DeM as Oswald's KGB babysitter. Who knows, maybe even double agent himself!

Jerry said that Epstein had paid DeM \$5,000 for an interview last year and both came away with mutual hatred, Epstein telling others he was convinced DeM had consistently lied to him. When Epstein interviewed DeM just before his suicide, he brought only one thing to show him--and Jerry says he has this on good authority: the Dallas Morning News article about DeM's mental ills confirmed. Evidently, Jerry says, Epstein tried to use the story to put pressure on DeM to "confess" and threatened to expose him as a KGB agent. Jerry thinks this really is what did the old guy in, not so much the committee.

Also, on the P.S. Letter, Jerry said he spoke to Earl Golz by phone and that Golz carefully explained to him all the various things the handwriting experts looked for and found which convinced them the letter is genuine. He couldn't remember them, however, when I pressed, and I reiterated my belief to the contrary.

Howard Roffman